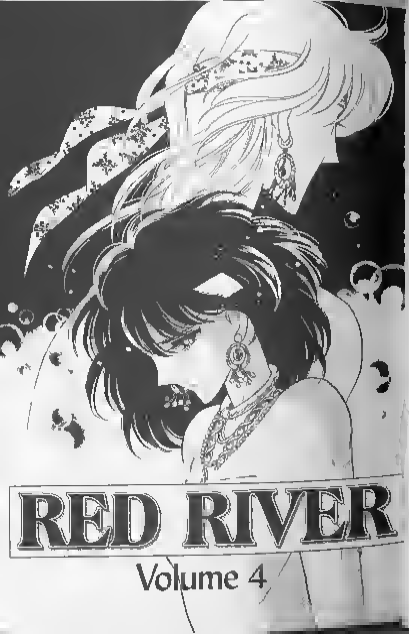

RED RIVER

VOL. 4

STORY AND ART BY CHIE SHINOHARA

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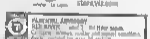


Story Thus Far:

Prince Kail
The third prince of the Hittite Empire who is gifted with magical powers, Prince Kail has begun to develop feelings for Yuri.

Yuri
She was an ordinary 9th grader until she was mysteriously transported to the ancient Hitt to Empire.

Queen Nakia
A sorceress who wants to sacrifice Yuri to the Storm God in order to ensure her son's succession to the throne.

Yuri was an ordinary junior high student until the day she was sucked into a portal on the street and emerged in the ancient Hittite Empire! Evil Queen Nakia had used her magic to draw Yuri across time and space as a sacrifice. Rescued by the handsome but arrogant Prince Kail, Yuri is taken to live in his palace as his concubine. All she wants is to return to her home, but that can only happen if three mediators are met. She must have the help of a sorcerer equal to the queen—only Prince Kail turns out to be all seven of Hattusa's springs must fill with water and Yuri must wear the clothes she had on when she was kidnapped.

Yuri sneaks into the queen's palace with Kail's young servant Tito, to retrieve her clothes. But they walk into an ambush, as the queen's barbarian servant, Zuwa, captures them. Tito helps Yuri break free, only to be killed by Zuwa. When the shaman finally arrives for Yuri to go home, she pauses it up vowing to stay and avenge Tito's death.

In order to shield Yuri from suspicion Kail announces that she is the incarnation of the goddess Ishtar, and the shaman must vote to prove her. Kail's dream is to rule over an empire of justice with the help of his brother Prince Zannanza. In an effort to decide the two brothers, Queen Nakia uses enchanted water to cast a spell on Zannanza. Under the influence of the water he kidnaps Yuri and carries her off to a city that is being attacked by the Mitanni heroes. Yuri figures out a way to break the Queen's spell over Zannanza but finds herself in a storm of chaos and bloodshed.

I WILL GATHER OUR BOWMEN TROOPS AND MAY KAIL SOME TIME.
IF S WON'T ACT KIZZUWATNA WILL FALL TO THE MITANNI THIS WAY
BUT YOU MUST GET WORD OF THIS TO HIM!
KAIL MUST KNOW OF THIS INVASION!
BUT WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
CAN YOU FIND HIM WITHOUT ANY HELP?
YURI,
CAN YOU GET OUT OF THE CITY ON YOUR OWN?
WHAT?

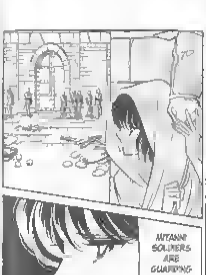
WE CAN'T ALLOW THE MITANNI ARMIES TO ENTER OUR LAND
WE MUST MOBILIZE OUR FORCES IMMEDIATELY
DOESN'T KIZZUWATNA HAVE ANY SOLDIERS?
NOT ENOUGH TO HOLD BACK THE MITANNI FLOOD!
THEY'LL NEED THE HELP OF OUR ARMIES.
RAAAR
RAAAR

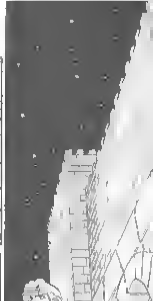
YURI...
WAIT A MOMENT
OH, YOU MEAN POLARIS. I GOT IT
THE LONE NORTH STAR?
SOON, KANESH LIES NORTH OF HERE.
JUST FOLLOW THE LONE NORTH STAR.
I'LL BE BACK HERE WITH PRINCE KAIL IN THREE DAYS
I'LL MAKE IT!
MY BROTHER CAN BE WITH THEM IN TWO DAYS
AND I'LL GET WORD TO MY MEN IN KANESH.
WHAT?
NO.
KAIL WILL BE ON HIS WAY HERE IN SEARCH OF US.
YOU'RE GOING TO FIGHT THEM, BUT
I'LL TAKE ME A WEEK TO RIDE TO MATTHSA AND BACK.
BUT YOU MUST GET TO KANESH IN ONE DAY YURI.
I'LL HOLD OUT FOR AS LONG AS I CAN BEHIND THEM.
OUR OUTPOST HERE IS PROTECTED BY STRONG WALLS.
IT TOOK US TWO DAYS TO GET HERE FROM KANESH. CAN'T MAKE IT THERE IN ONE?
GULP
ONE DAY...

YURI.
DON'T WORRY! THAT WAS JUST THE QUEEN'S SPELL TALKING!
PERHAPS DEEP DOWN I DO.
I'LL BE BACK IN THREE DAYS!
YURI!
I'LL SEE YOU SOON. AND GOOD LUCK!
I DON'T HOLD IT AGAINST YOU
I STILL REMEMBER THE FEEL OF HIS HANDS ON MY BODY. BUT
HOW CAN I HATE A MAN WHO LOOKS LIKE FORCE KAIJI?

I'VE WRONGED YOU TERRIBLY.
I'M SORRY FOR GETTING YOU INTO THIS.
UM, WELL...
BLUSH
I RESPECT MY BROTHER DEEPLY. BUT I SAID I ENVIED HIM.
I DON'T KNOW WHY I SAID THOSE THINGS
FOR-GIVE ME.

OOOH!
NO, I CAN'T
I HAVE NO TIME TO LOSE. I CAN'T GET INVOLVED IN THIS.
OH!
IT'S NOT THE BRAT WE WANT.
PLEASE! DON'T HURT MY SON!
SWAP


MITANNI SOLDIERS ARE GUARDING THE CITY GATES.
HOW CAN I GET PAST THEM?
NO!
STOP!



I SHALL RULE THE EMPIRE WITH JUSTICE. WE SHALL NEITHER INVADE OTHER LANDS, NOR ALLOW OUR LANDS TO BE INVADED.
I WISH TO RULE A PEACEFUL EMPIRE.
PRINCE KAI...
HOWAH!
AAAGH!
STAY OUT OF IT!
STAY HERE.
AH!
OUTTA THE WAY, BRAT!
I CAN'T STAND BY AND LET THIS HAPPEN.
WAIT, GIRL!
WHOA

WHAT?
DON'T GO OVER THERE.
I KNOW YOU PITY THE WOMAN, BUT YOU CAN'T HELP HER.
IF YOU GO THERE, YOU WILL SHARE HER FATE.
THESE WOMEN MUST BE LOCALS.
DO YOU KNOW HER? HOW CAN YOU LET HER ..
AND WE CAN ONLY HIDE LIKE RATS
THE SOLDIERS RUIN OUR HOUSES, RAPE OUR WOMEN, AND STEAL OUR VALUABLES
YES, WE KNOW HER, BUT WHAT CAN WE DO?
THIS ALWAYS HAPPENS IN WAR.

YOU WEASELS LIKE TO PICK ON GIRLS? TRY ME!
HOW DARE YOU?!
SHIK
NO, SOLDIER, HOW DARE YOU?!
HEY!
KA
WHA--
RUN, YOU MYANNI COWARDS!
SAE BOOTS THEM OFF!!
LET'S GO.
WE'LL GET HER LATER.
SUK THEM UP GIRL!
SUK IT, GOOK!!!
AAAH!
WAP
WAK

THAT'S NOT TRUE! THE MITTYE SOLDIERS WON'T DO THESE TERRIBLE THINGS TO YOU!!
PRINCE KAL WOULDN'T ALLOW THAT
I'M SURE THE MITTYE ARMIES WILL COME TO HELP YOU.
I'M SURE.
HMPH!
THEY ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM MITANNI.
WE HAVE NOWHERE TO GO.
THIS IS OUR HOME.
BESIDES, THE SOLDIERS KILLED MY HUSBAND. I HAVE TO AVENGE HIM.

YAY!
THAT WAS INCREDIBLE! ^ ^
HOORAY
YAY
YOU'RE WONDERFUL!
THANK YOU... THANK YOU SO MUCH.
ARE YOU OKAY LITTLE BOY?

I'M ON AN URGENT MISSION!
GO WHERE? THE MITANNI SOLDIERS ARE EVERY-WHERE.
I HAVE TO GO

VERY WELL, I'LL SHOW YOU A SECRET PATH. FOLLOW ME.
AHA! I UNDER-STAND!
A SECRET PATH? WHY WON'T YOU ESCAPE THEN?
YOU'RE ONLY A CHILD, TOO...
PUSH!
IS THERE A MAN?
ARE YOU COME HOME TO YOUR FAMILY?
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU'RE FROM AROUND HERE..

shôjo

RED RIVER

4

story and art by **Chie Shinohara**

RUN FAST, HORSE!
I'M GONNA MAKE IT TO KANESH IN ONE DAY!
I WON'T CARE HOW TIRED OR SORE I GET!
JUST FOLLOW THE ECHE HOMITA! SIR!
THUMP
AT THE SIDE OF PRINCE KAI AND HIS ARMY
I WILL
MAY THE GODS SPEED YOU!
IS YOUR MAN A HITTITE?
IF HE IS A MAN OF RANK, PLEASE ASK HIM TO TREAT US WELL.
THANK YOU.
GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YOU, TOO!
I'LL BE BACK SOON!

GUIDE ME TO PRINCE KAI...
PLEASE, STARS IN THE ANATOLIAN SKY...

WHAT IS A STRAY HORSE?
NO, IT'S...
KLOP
YURI!

TAPPLING TAPPLING
KLOP KLOP
I'M NOT TIRED
WILL YOU REST AWHILE?
KLOP!
WE ARE NEARING KIZILWATHA, MY PRINCE
YURI
IT'S BEEN SIX DAYS SINCE YOU LEFT HATHUSA. PLEASE BE SAFE.

I SHALL.
YOU'VE DONE WELL, SIRI.
THE MYANN HAVE OVERRUN KIZUNAYNA. YOU HAVE TO GO THERE WITH YOUR ARMIES AT ONCE!
YOU'VE GOT TO GO THERE AT ONCE!
PRINCE KAL? THE PRIN. KAL.?
WHAT?!
PRINCE ZAANANTA IS TRYING TO HOLD THEM BACK UNTIL YOU ARRIVE!
PRINCE KAL...
IS THAT A DREAM?
NO, IT'S ME! DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
GASP

YUKI!
SPEAK TO ME!
YUKI!

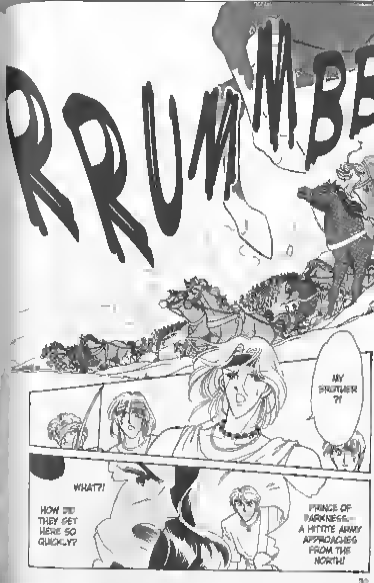
WHAT'S WRONG, PRINCE KAIL?
YES, MY PRINCE!
KLOP
YUKKURI. WE'RE GOING TO KANBISH TO GET AN AMAH!
WITH ME
TAKE CARE OF YURI. HAIH FOLLOW. BUT NOT TOO FAST.
.. THAT PRINCE KAIL SAVE?
SO YOU THINK.
LOVE BITE.
PRINCE ZANNAREA MUST HAVE DONE THIS.
SHE MUSTN'T GET TOO HOT
S'STERS, MAKE A SUNSHADE FOR THE PRINCESS.
HAIH, LOOK HERE.

YURI!!
TELL YOUR SOLDIERS NOT TO MISTREAT THE PEOPLE.
PLEASE
THANK GOD I FOUND YOU
PUW

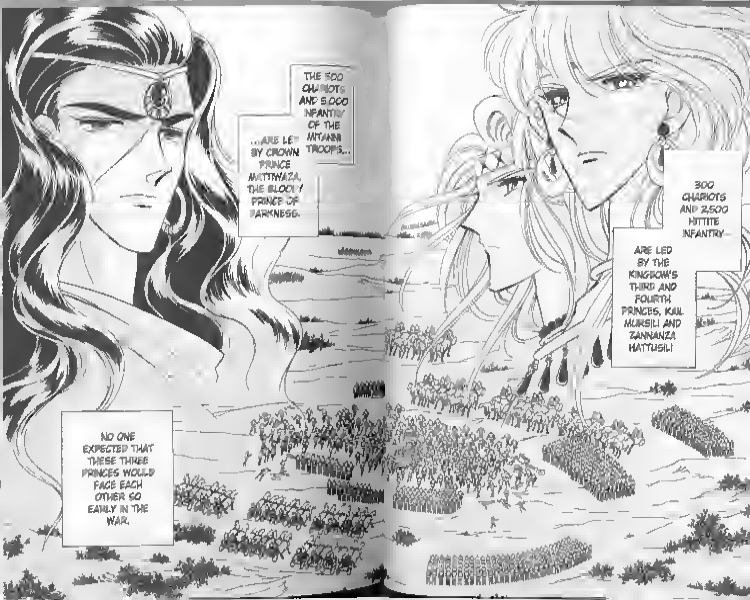
BOOM
BOOM
WE'VE GOT TO HAVE REINFORCEMENTS... SOON!
PRINCE ZANNANZA... THE GATES CAN'T HOLD MUCH LONGER!
WHY DID YOU ASK KING SUNASH TO SEND TROOPS HERE?
WHAT ABOUT HITTITE TROOPS?
YOUR HIGHNESS, LOOK THERE!
SHE MAY NOT HAVE MADE IT
YUP.
WE DID
BUT HE REFUSED.

A HITTITE OUTPOST NEAR HATTUSHA
RAARR
RAARR
BOOM
BOOM

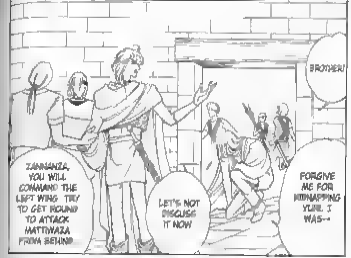
PRINCE ZANNANZA!
WE MADE IT!
KAIL! YURI!


RRUMBE
MY BROTHER ?!
WHAT?!
HOW DID THEY GET HERE SO QUICKLY?
PRINCE OF DARKNESS... A HITTITE ARMY APPROACHES FROM THE NORTH!

ZANKANKA GAVE ME SICKEYS?!
GASP
I HOPE PRINCE KAIL DIDN'T SEE THEM.
I'LL JUST GO THROUGH IT
A CLOAK ?
BUT I'M NOT COLD
YOUR HORSE AWAITS YOU IN THE COURTYARD! MY FATHER RE-FORGED THE IRON SWORD FOR YOU.
HERE THEY ARE.
IT'S FOR YOUR QUEST
WHAT?
AND PLEASE WEAR THIS, PRINCESS YUNI.
...IN THE SMALL KINGDOM OF KUTUNAYA ON THE EASTERN SHORES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA.
ON THIS DAY THE HITTITES MET THE MITANNI IN BATTLE...
HAGI...
I WON'T BE A BURDEN TO PRINCE KAIL IN THIS BATTLE!
GET ME A HORSE AND A SWORD!

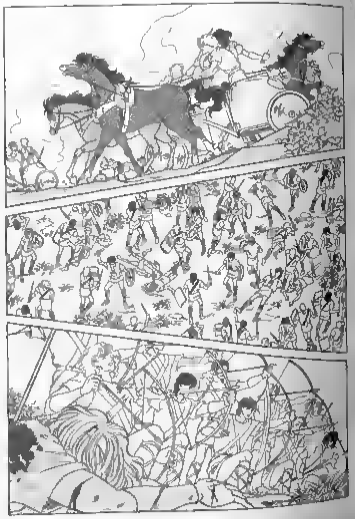

THE 500 CHARIOTS AND 5,000 INFANTRY OF THE MITANNI TROOPS...
...ARE LED BY CROWN PRINCE MUTTWAZA, THE BLOODY PRINCE OF DARKNESS.
NO ONE EXPECTED THAT THESE THREE PRINCES WOULD FACE EACH OTHER SO EARLY IN THE WAR.
300 CHARIOTS AND 2,500 HITTITE INFANTRY...
ARE LED BY THE KINGDOM'S THIRD AND FOURTH PRINCES, KAL MURSILI AND ZANNANZA HATTUSILI

IS HE ANGRY?
HE MUST HAVE SEEN THE LOVE BITES
FWAP
ISHTAR SHOULD REMAIN IN THE TEMPLE.
BUT I...
DO AS I SAY!
KIKUCHIMA COME.

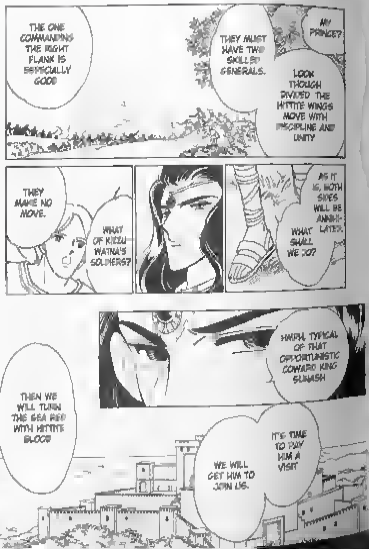

BROTHER!
FORGIVE ME FOR KIDNAPPING YURI. I WAS--
LET'S NOT DISCUSS IT NOW
ZANNANZA, YOU WILL COMMAND THE LEFT WING. TRY TO GET ROUND TO ATTACK MATTIWAZA FROM BEHIND

YES, MY PRINCE.
PRINCE KAIL?

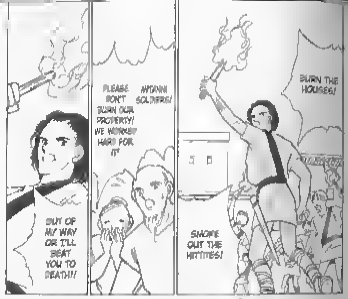
YURI...
YOU STAY INSIDE THE FORT WITH HAIA AND HER SISTERS.
I DON'T WANT TO HIDE IN HERE! TAKE ME WITH YOU!



WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YURI AND XANNARIA?
RIGHT WING!!
FOLLOW ME!!
IT TOOK ALL I HAD NOT TO ASK THAT QUESTION. BUT YURI IS NOT AN WOMAN.
SHE TOLD ME SHE LOVES SOMEONE FROM HER HOME. I HAVE NO RIGHT TO INTERROGATE HER.
BLANK


THE ONE COMMANDING THE RIGHT FLANK IS ESPECIALLY GOOD
THEY MUST HAVE TWO SKILLED GENERALS.
MY PRINCE?
LOOK THOUGH DIVIDED THE HITTITE WINGS MOVE WITH DISCIPLINE AND UNITY
THEY MAKE NO MOVE.
WHAT OF KIZZU-WATNA'S SOLDIERS?
AS IT IS, BOTH SIDES WILL BE ANNIHILATED.
WHAT SHALL WE DO?
HMPH. TYPICAL OF THAT OPPORTUNISTIC COWARD KING SUWASH
THEN WE WILL TURN THE SEA RED WITH HITTITE BLOOD!
IT'S TIME TO PAY HIM A VISIT
WE WILL GET HIM TO JOIN US.

THE MITANNI GAMBIT
HOW DO WE FARE?
WE OUTNUMBER THEM, BUT WE CANNOT BREAK THEIR RANKS.
IT IS VERY STRANGE!
WE ARE AT AN IMPASSE!
HMPH...
THIS IS WHAT AN ABLE COMMANDER WITH A SMALL NUMBER OF GOOD SOLDIERS CAN DO


OUT OF MY WAY OR I'LL BEAT YOU TO DEATH!!
PLEASE DON'T BURN OUR PROPERTY! WE WORKED HARD FOR IT!
MYANNA SOLDIERS!
BURN THE HOUSES!
SHOOT OUT THE HITTITES!

KOOSH
WHERE ARE THEY?
WHAT'S THIS?

INFANTRY MEN, GUARD THE CITY STREETS!
YOU ARE NOT TO HARASS THE CITIZENS! PROTECT THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN!
WHAT?
WE'RE NOT GOING TO HARM YOU
OUR ISHTAR DOESN'T LIKE TO SEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN MISTREATED
AAAH! PLEASE DON'T KILL US!
HUSH! CALL THE OTHERS HERE. WE'RE TAKING YOU OUT OF HARM'S WAY

KYANK
WAAH!
KLANK

I WON'T LET YOU BURN THIS CITY!!
HAH, RYO, SHULA..
LET'S GET THEM!!
RIGHT!

I DID. HE'S WITH ME. THAT'S HIM OVER THERE
IN THE CHARIOT DRAWN BY GOLD-MANED HORSES
OH... I THOUGHT YOU WENT BACK YOUR MAN.
OH! HE'S VERY HANDSOME!
HE MUST BE AN IMPORTANT MAN, SIR?

HOW STRONG THEY ARE!
ARE THOSE WOMEN ALSO LITTLE SOLDIERS?!
I'VE NEVER SEEN WOMEN WARRIORS BEFORE!
THAT GIRL...
OH I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
LITTLE GIRL! YOU'VE COME BACK!
WHINNY

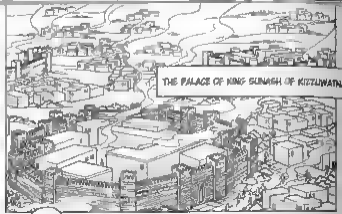
NOW, LET ME GO!
SHE IS PRINCESS YURI, CONSORT OF PRINCE KAIL MURSILI.
SHE IS ISHTAR OF THE HITTITES.
WHO IS THAT GIRL?
YOUNG LADY
HAH. PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THESE WOMEN FOR ME, OKAY?
SHE IS HIS HIGHNESS'S CONSORT...
AND ISHTAR OF THE HITTITES.
THAT WHISPER OF A GIRL?

I WISH I COULD TELL HIM THAT
BUT I CAN'T
IF I WANT TO STAY WITH HIM, I HAVE TO GO ON BEING ISHTAR.
YOU SEE? I TOLD YOU THE HITTITE SOLDIERS WOULDN'T HURT YOU, DIDN'T I?
HE WON'T LET THEM.
NOTHING HAPPENED BETWEEN PRINCE ZANNANZA AND ME. I LOVE ONLY YOU, PRINCE KAIL.

YOU LITTLE FOOL! I TOLD YOU TO STAY IN THE PORT!
PRINCE KAIL!
GO BACK BEFORE AN ARROW FINDS YOU!!
I'M SORRY I WANTED TO HELP YOU.
I'M SORRY!
I DON'T WANT YOUR HELP!
I'M NOT ANGRY WITH YOU.
!!
I'M SORRY!
DON'T BE ANGRY WITH ME PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY WITH ME ANY MORE!
I'M SORRY I SHOUTED! I'M AGITATED FROM FIGHTING

IF IT HELPS HIM, I WILL PLAY THE ROLE OF ISHTAR WITH ALL MY MIGHT
I WANT TO BE AT PRINCE KAIL'S SIDE AND DO WHATEVER I CAN FOR HIM.
SWISH
HAH!
YUKI! LOOK OUT!
OH!

I'D LIKE TO MAKE THEM THERE WERE NO OTHER MAN COULD EVER LAY EYES ON HER.
AND HAVE HER ALL TO MYSELF.
PRINCE.
SHUP
YOUR HIGHNESS!!
HAH!
I DON'T WANT HER ON THE BATTLE FIELD
I'D LIKE TO KEEP HER LOCKED AWAY SAFE WITHIN THE PALACE
...
COMMAND ME
I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU!!
BUT YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH.
YOU'VE DONE WELL AS OUR ISHTAR...
BETTER THAN I COULD HAVE IMAGINED


THE PALACE OF KING SUNASH OF KIZILWATNA

YOU'VE MADE A WISE CHOICE.
shiver
shiver
shiver
shiver
KING SUNASH...

BUT YOU MAY LIVE ONLY IF YOU VOW TO REMAIN LOYAL TO US AFTER WE CONQUER ANATOLIA.
BUT IF YOU HAD JOINED ME IMMEDIATELY, THIS UNPLEASANT NEWS COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED.
AH, WELL. YOU'LL HAVE OTHER CONCUBINES AND CHILDREN.

WHAT?
PRINCE KAIL!
THE KING OF KIZILWATNA HAS SIDED WITH MITANNI.

KING SUNASH HAS BETRAYED US.
WAIT! I THOUGHT KIZILWATNA WAS YOUR ALLY!

PRINCE KAIL...
WITH KIZILWATNA'S 2,000 MEN, THE MITANNI CAN SWEEP EVEN PRINCE KAIL FROM THE FIELD!
SHALAI

YOUR HIGHNESS! THE MITANNI ARE ADVANCING!
RAAA AHH
THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM WE CAN'T WIN!
DAWN.
ALL FORCES...
WE HAVE OUR ORDERS BUT TO RETREAT FOR NOW!
RRMMBB

WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THE MITANNI WILL POUR ACROSS THE BORDER AND RAVAGE OUR LANDS.
IF KUZUWATTA FALLS, THE SOUTHERN PART OF OUR EMPIRE WILL BE OPEN TO ATTACK
BROTHER.
FORGIVE ME. THE LEFT WING FORCES COULDN'T HOLD
PRINCE KAIL!
THE FIRST AND SECOND CHARIOT UNITS OF THE RIGHT FLANK ARE FALLING BACK!
THEY'RE HOPELESSLY OUTNUMBERED!
OH...
BROTHER, OUR FORCES WILL SOON BE TOTALLY ANNIHILATED!
PRINCE ZANNANZA HAS RETURNED.

IT'S THE PEOPLE OF MITANNI!
!!
IF AN OUTSIDER MUST RULE US...
WE PREFER THE HITTITE'S MERCY TO THE BLOODY PRINCE OF BABYLON!
WE'VE ALWAYS LIVED IN THE SHADOW OF FOREIGN RULERS!
OUR KING MAY HAVE SIDED WITH THE MITANNI, BUT WE'LL STAND WITH HITTITES
OH.

SPLOOSH
BRICKS!
AAUGH! DROWNING IN WATER!!
TAKE THAT!
WE KNOW OUR CITY SUITS YOU BETTER THAN YOU DOES YOU!
SPL

LOOK!!
THE MITANNI ARE FLEEING!!
WE WON? THE HITTITES WON?!
PRINCE KAIL WON!!
AND WON'T COME BACK!!
WE DID IT! RUN, YOU BASTARDS!
I SHALL REMEMBER THAT NAME.
KAIL MURSIL!!

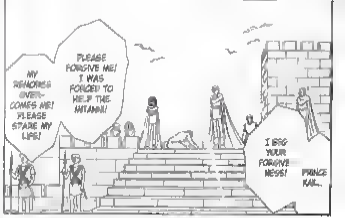
WHAT?
PRINCE OF DARK MESS!
THE PEOPLE OF MITTANNIA ARE ATTACKING US THROUGHOUT THE CITY!
THE RABBLE IS ATTACKING OUR FORCES!

DO YOU LEARN WHO THE HITTITE COMMANDER IS?
YES, MY PRINCE THE PRISONERS SAY HE IS PRINCE KAIL MURSIL!
HMPH. WE CAN'T WIN A BATTLE WITH THE ENTIRE POPULACE IN THE CITY STREETS
WITH-DRAW!
WE'LL REGROUP AND PLAN OUR NEXT MOVE.
HITTAH?
HOW CAN THIS BE? THOSE TERROR-STRICKEN YOKOWS HAVE TAKEN UP ARMS AGAINST US?
YES, AND THEIR BATTLE-CRY IS "HITTAH."

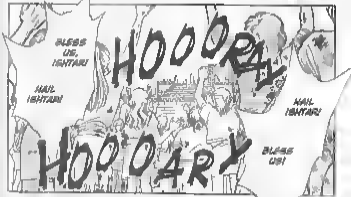
PRINCE KAI...
HOORAY
HOORAY
THE PEOPLE HAVE EMBRACED ISHTAR FAR BEYOND OUR EXPECTA-TIONS.
IT'S BIGGER THAN US NOW

tap
MY BLESSING? HOW DID I DO THAT?
GIVE THEM YOUR BLESSING.
YUM...

PRINCE KA--


MY HEARTLESS UNDER-COMES ME! PLEASE STARE MY LIFE!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME! I WAS FORCED TO HELP THE MITANNI!
I BEG YOUR FORGIVE-NESS!
PRINCE KAI...

YES, YOUR HIGH-NESS.
YOUR SON WILL RULE AND YOU WILL BE CONFINED TO YOUR PALACE.
MY FATHER WILL DECIDE YOUR FATE. UNTIL THEN...
HAIL SU-MARI.


BLESS US, ISHTAR!
HOOORAY
HAIL ISHTAR!
HAIL ISHTAR!
HOORAY
BLESS US!

SWAP
MAHTAR BLESSES...
KUSU-WAYNA!
COLD LIPS...

WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT THIS FEELING?
I LOVE PRINCE KAIL SO MUCH IT HURTS
ISHTAR!
ISHTAR!
ISHTAR!
ISHTAR!
ISHTAR!
WHAT CAN I DO?
BUT HIS KISS WAS COLD
THERE WAS NO FEELING IN THAT KISS.
I FEEL THE PEOPLE'S EXCITEMENT I FEEL THE WARMTH OF THE SUN AND THE EARTH...
HOORAY

GLO
O
M
WHAT CAN WE DO?
WHY DOES A PALL HANG OVER THIS PALACE?

PRINCE KAI...
AND EVEN PRINCESS YURI SEEM SO SAD
PRINCE ZANNANZA.

BUT DESPITE ALL THAT...
WHY?
THE CITY OF HATTUSA REVELS IN THE VICTORY OVER THE HITTANI!
THE SUN SHINES IN A BEAUTIFUL BLUE SKY TODAY

OF COURSE.
WHICH IS WHY I BELIEVE SHE WILL TRY TO PERSUADE HIS MAJESTY TO PUNISH THEM HARSHLY.
NO DOUBT NAKIA WILL INITIATE A PROTEST ON THIS MATTER.

HAVE YOU FORGOT TEN?
ZANNANIA ABDUCTED HIS BROTHER'S CONSORT.
AND KAIL IS ACCUSED OF NEGLIGENCE FOR NOT STOPPING HIM.
THEIR VICTORY OVER THE ATOANN HAS NO BEARING ON THESE JUDGEMENTS.

OH.
BUT THE KIDNAPPING WAS PART OF QUEEN NAKIA'S PLOT TO DESTROY THE PRINCES!

BUT THEY WERE ALONE TOGETHER FOR DAYS! NO WONDER PRINCE KAIL IS SUSPICIOUS.
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID...
BUT, PRINCESS YUNA AND PRINCE ZANNANIA DIDN'T MAKE LOVE, DID THEY?

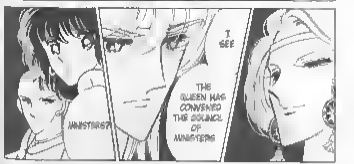
STOP THAT WHORE! WHISPERING AND GET TO WORK, YOU MINIONS!
WE HAVE ENOUGH TO WORRY ABOUT IN THIS PALACE.
Y-YES, MAM.

HAMI'S RIGHT.
I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT PRINCE ZANNANIA'S LIFE...
THAN PRINCE KAIL'S LOVE LIFE.
LEAH.
WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN?

EXCUSE ME, PRINCE KAIL.
THE EMPEROR'S MESSENGER IS HERE.
HIS MAJESTY SUMMONS PRINCE KAIL, PRINCE XANXANTA, AND PRINCESS YURI TO HIS PALACE AT ONCE.
EXCUSE ME, PRINCE KAIL.
THE EMPEROR'S MESSENGER IS HERE.
HIS MAJESTY SUMMONS PRINCE KAIL, PRINCE XANXANTA, AND PRINCESS YURI TO HIS PALACE AT ONCE.

THEY LIKE THE HITTITE CODE, CONSISTING OF 200 CHAPTERS OF LAWS.
UNDER THE CODE, OUR EMPEROR, UNLIKE THE RULERS OF EGYPT AND BABYLONIA, CANNOT MAKE IMPORTANT DECISIONS SOLELY ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY.
THAT'S RIGHT. THE HITTITE STATE HAS THREE DECISION-MAKING BODIES—
HIS MAJESTY THE TABARNA; HER MAJESTY THE TAWANANNA
AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.
THE EMPEROR IS BOUND TO OBEY THE CODE.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD SYSTEM. BUT I WONDER HOW IT WILL WORK IN THIS CASE
KAL MURSILI AND TAWANANNA HATTUSILI
FIRST, I WISH TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR HEROIC VICTORY IN THE BATTLE OF NIKLMARNA.

THE IMPERIAL PALACE
TA-DO-OM
THESE PEOPLE?
WHO ARE AL...


I SEE
THE QUEEN HAS CONVENED THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
MINISTERS?

YOU WON'T INVISIBLE YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS, PRINCE KAI.
SILENCE!
THAT THEY SAW PRINCE ZANNANCA TAKE THE GIRL AGAINST HER WILL!
GUARDS AT THE CITY GATES AND IN KANESH HAVE TESTIFIED,...
IT WASN'T KIDNAPPING...
PLEASE WAIT YOUR MAJESTY
BUT HER MAGIC WATCH EVAPORATED, SO WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE AGAINST HER.
NO, THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
IF ONLY WE HAD PROOF THAT QUEEN NAKIA'S MAGIC WAS BEHIND IT

HOWEVER, THAT SUCCESS DOES NOT ABSOLVE THE CHARGES AGAINST YOU.
MY SONS ARE MEANT TO BE EXAMPLES TO THE PEOPLE, YET YOU HAVE VIOLATED OUR LAWS.
NOT ONLY DID YOU CAUSE TURMOIL IN A ROYAL PALACE, BUT THROUGH OUT THE CITY
ESPECIALLY YOU, ZANNANCA.
KIDNAPPING IS A SERIOUS OFFENSE.

.. THAT THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONFIRM MY PROPOSAL.
THERE FORE, I DEMAND.
AS HIS MAJESTY SAID BE-FORE.
PRINCES SHOULD BE EXAMPLES!

THEY MUST KNOW HOW IMPORTANT PRINCE KAIL IS TO THE EMPIRE.
SURELY THE MINISTERS WON'T APPROVE IT!

I SUPPORT THE QUEEN'S PROPOSAL.
KLINK
KLINK
KLINK
AND I.
SO DO I

STRIPPED OF THEIR RANK?
THAT IS NOT ENOUGH!
THEY WOULD BECOME COMMON SUBJECTS.
THE QUEEN WANTS TO..
DEPRIVE PRINCE KAI-OF HIS RIGHT OF SUCCES-SION.
THAT SLY WITCH !!
I DEMAND THAT THE PRINCES BE STRIPPED OF THEIR ROYAL RANK!

THE HITTITE GODS REQUIRES THAT AN ORDINARY CITIZEN BE FINED ONE YEAR'S IN-COME FOR KIDNAPPING.
BUT AS YOU ARE PRINCES, I FINE YOU 200 TIMES THAT AMOUNT. YOU MUST PAY 80 SILVER MANA.

WAIT YOUR MAJESTY!
THE KIDNAPPING WAS JUST A TACTICAL PLOY OF PRINCE KAILIS!
THIS IS ABSURD!
EH...
I SHALL NOT PRONOUNCE JUDGE MENT
PRINCE KAILIS AND PRINCE ZANAMIZA HATTUSA SHALL BE SUPPRIVED OF
THE COUNCIL HAS SIDED WITH THE QUEEN.
EVEN THE EMPEROR CAN'T OVERTURN THEIR DECISION.

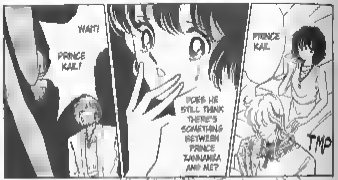
THE QUEEN MUST HAVE DONE SOMETHING TO MAKE THEM SUPPORT HER.
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SUPPORTS MY PROPOSAL.
YOUR MAJESTY PLEASE RATIFY IT

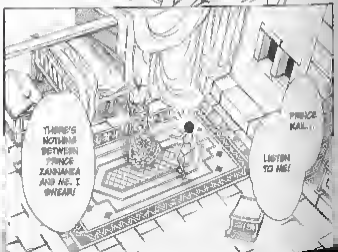
HAVING LEARNED THAT THE MITANNI WERE GOING TO ATTACK KIZZU-WATNA..
PRINCE KAL SENT PRINCE ZANNANZA AND ME THERE TO PREPARE THE CITY TO REPEL THE INVADERS.
AND TO FOOL ANY ENEMY SPIES, HE MADE IT LOOK LIKE I WAS KIDNAPPED
BLINK
PRINCE ZANNANZA AND I DID —
— NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF.
IT'S TRUE. NOTHING SCANDALOUS HAPPENED!

YUM?
WAIT! I WOULD HEAR WHAT SHE HAS TO SAY
BE SILENT GIRL!
OH?
UM, VERY WELL.
gulp
I MEAN
WHAT?
..PRINCE KAL STAGED THE WHOLE THING TO FOIL THE MITANNI!

I KNEW THERE MUST BE A LOGICAL EXPLANATION FOR IT ALL.
HA HA HA
EXCELLENT WORK, PRINCE KAE.
MOST AUDACIOUS.
NO WITH MY BLESSING
A BRILLIANT PLAN, MY SONS. YOU WILL BOTH BE DECORATED FOR THIS
VERY WELL.
I MAKE THAT WHOLE BATTLE UP JUST IT WORKED! THANK GOD
THANK HEAVEN.
WUMP

THEN TELL ME.
HOW DIDN'T YOU TELL US THE ARCHIVE WERE GOING TO ATTACK?
OUR VICTORY IS FINALLY THAT WHAT SHE SAYS IS TRUE.
...WITH OUT PRE-WARNING WE HAD WHILE THE FORCES WE HAD.
COULD WE HAVE REPELLED THE FORCES OF DARKNESS.
WHAT A PREPOSTEROUS LIE.
IS THIS TRUE?
THEY SAY YOU HAVE TO FOOL YOUR OWN PEOPLE IF YOU WISH TO FOOL YOUR ENEMY
AND ONE NEVER KNOWS WHOM ONE CAN TRUST... IN WAR.


WAIT!
PRINCE KAIL!
DOES HE STILL THINK THERE'S SOMETHING BETWEEN PRINCE ZANNANZA AND ME?
PRINCE KAIL
TMP


THERE'S NOTHING BETWEEN PRINCE ZANNANZA AND ME. I SWEAR!
PRINCE KAIL...
LISTEN TO ME!

THAT DAWN QUEEN. SHE USES EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO DESTROY US.
OH, THANK YOU.

HÄH!!

THANK YOU, YURI.
YOU SAVED ME AGAIN.
NOT AT ALL, PRINCE ZANNANZA.
I'M JUST GLAD EVERYONE WAS SO EAGER TO BELIEVE MY STORY

LET ME GO!
I TOLD YOU TO STOP THAT!
WUMP
BA-BUMP
THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME TODAY. NOW PLEASE GO.
I KNEW I BELIEVED YOU, DIDN'T I?
DON'T BE A BRAT! IF YOU'RE UPSET LET'S TALK ABOUT IT!
WHAP
YEAH?!
STOP THROWING THINGS AT ME, YOU SHIT. FINE.
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU AND JUNNNNEE.
AND IF YOU REALLY BELIEVE ME, WHY WON'T YOU LOOK ME IN THE EYE?

YOU'RE NOT SHORT OF GIRL FRIENDS?!
WHY DON'T YOU GO TO SLEEP WITH ONE OF THE OTHER PRINCESSES ?!
YOU JERK!!
WHAM
YURI?!
I'M SLEEPING IN HERE WITH YOU FROM NOW ON!
HAH.
WA!L SHALA—
WHAT?!
PRINCESS YURI?

!!
WHAT?
YOU'RE RIGHT. I AM A SHY FIRE
GO TO SEE.
PRINCE KAL?
P-P?!
HAP

I'M SORRY BARLEY IS SCARCE THESE DAYS.
WANT ME YOU SAY? THREE SHEKELS FOR A BASKET OF BARLEY?
IT WAS ONLY ONE SHEKEL LAST WEEK!
THE SHORTAGE ISN'T MY FAULT!
YOU GREEDY WOMAN!
I'M SORRY THE CARAVANS FROM ASSYRIA HAVEN'T COME FOR SOME TIME. BARLEY IS SCARCE IN ALL ITS NATURAL
WE'RE SORE CUSTOMERS!
GIVE US A BREAK!
BABY'S HUNGRY.
05

YOU ARE FRIENDLY, RUTH.
WHAT CAN I DO? YOU WILL EVENTUALLY GO BACK TO HER OWN LAND.
I TOLD YOU THE TRUTH. IF YOU STILL DOUBT ME, WHAT CAN I DO?
IF WE GET CAUGHT, I WON'T BE ABLE TO LET HIM GO.
04

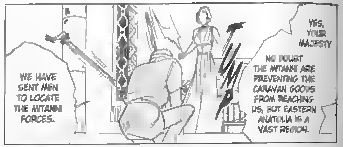
WE DID...
BUT WE'VE HAD NO WORD OF THEM SINCE THEY ENTERED EASTERN ANATOLIA.
ARE WE ALSO KNOWN THAT THEY PASSED THE PLACES WHERE THEY USUALLY STOP
ARE YOU SAYING
...THE GRAIN CARAVANS HAVE DISAPPEARED?
DISAPPEARED?

THE PEOPLE ARE BUYING UP THE PRICE OF BARLEY!
WHAT'S DON'T WE HAVE SUFFICIENT BARLEY IN THE GRANARIES?

WELL, NO CARAVANS HAVE COME FROM MESOPOTAMIA FOR A MONTH

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
...!?! WE NOT RECEIVE LETTERS FROM THE MERCHANTS INFORMING US OF THEIR DEPARTURES?

YOUR MAJESTY!


WE HAVE SENT MEN TO LOCATE THE MITANNI FORCES.
YES, YOUR MAJESTY
NO DOUBT THE MITANNI ARE PREVENTING THE CARAVAN GOODS FROM REACHING US, BUT EASTERN ANATOLIA IS A VAST REGION.

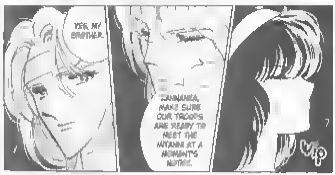
WOMEN OFTEN DO BECOME FERTILE DURING THE TIME OF THE MITANNI. DON'T THEY?
THE QUEEN SEEMS AGITATED.
THAT WILL TAKE TOO LONG. I MUST FIND THOSE MISSING CARAVANS IMMEDIATELY!

THOSE LOST CARAVANS MUST HAVE SOME CONNECTION TO THAT
PRINCE KAIL.
THIS IS NOT LAUGHING MATTER.
SHE GETS FIERCEST WHEN IT COMES TO THINGS AFFECTING THE ROYAL SUCCESSION.

THE MITANNI HAVE STOLEN OUR GRAIN!
IF THE CARAVANS STOPPED/PASSED THERE, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT...
THAT AREA IS NEAR THE MITANNI BORDER!
YOU MUST SEND SOLDIERS TO EASTERN ANATOLIA AT ONCE!

ME
I'D JUST JUST HAVE GIVEN ME THE SILENT TREATMENT
I ADMIT IT... I STARTED THE FIGHT BUT
WHY CAN'T HE JUST GET OVER IT?

ZANNANKA, I WANT YOU TO...
WE MUST BE VIGILANT I'LL HAVE THE MATTER INVESTIGATED


YES, MY BROTHER.
ZANNANKA, MAKE SURE OUR TROOPS ARE READY TO MEET THE NIYANNA AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE.
7

THINGS HAVE GOTTEN WORSE
OKAY!
HAVEN'T PRINCE KAL AND PRINCESS YURI MADE UP YET?

YES, KINGUR SAID AS MUCH TO ME.
PRINCESS YURU
HAH...
SO YOU THINK SO?
MAYBE IT'S TIME I STOPPED SULKING
I HOPE HE DOESN'T GET SICK FROM OVERWORK.
THEN PRINCE KAIL HAS A LOT TO WORRY ABOUT
DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT HE'S LEARNED ABOUT THE QUEEN?
WHAT?
PRINCESS YURU, WHY DON'T WE TAKE SOME FOOD TO HIM?
HA!
WE KNOW
TAKING FOOD TO HIM OVER'S YOUR EXCUSE, BECKY
I ONLY WANT TO KNOW WHAT NEWS IS UP TO.
I'M SURE PRINCE KAIL WILL BE VERY HAPPY TO SEE US.

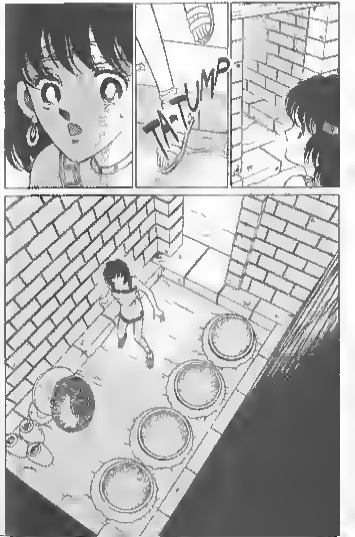
WHAT?
REMEMBER HOW SHE DEMANDED THAT THE CARAVANS BE FOUND? SHE'S STILL RANTING ON ABOUT IT
AND THE QUEEN IS PLOTTING SOMETHING, TOO.
HE IS SO BUSY WITH THE COUNCIL OF WAR.
I WONDER IF PRINCE KAIL WON'T BE COMING HOME AGAIN TONIGHT
FROM BABYLONIA?
I THINK THEY WERE BRINGING HER SOMETHING FROM BABYLONIA
SHE FEARS SOMETHING SHE SENT FOR MAY BE LOST

PRINCESS YUNI.
WHY DON'T WE WAIT FOR THE PRINCE--
PRINCESS YUNI!
WHOOSH
JUST AS I THOUGHT
THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT WHATEVER IT IS SHE DISCOVERED FROM BABYLONIA.
I HAVE.
NO ONE WILL DISTURB US HERE.
HAVE YOU DISCOVERED WHERE THE ITEM IS, UNIT?
THAT WAS THE QUEEN AND HER SERVANT UBAR!
WHERE ARE THEY GOING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE COUNCIL?
YES, YES.
I TOLD YOU I DIDN'T WANT TO SEE HIM.
PRINCE KAIL IS STILL IN HIS WAR COUNCIL.

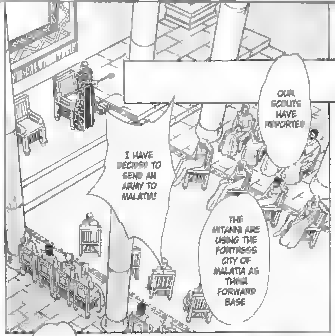
WHO IS THERE?!
LIKA!
WHO-EVER IS SPYING ON US.
MUST DIE!
DAWN.
WHAT DO I DO?

THEN THE ANTANNI DO HAVE IT?
PROBABLY SO
ACCORDING TO THE SURVIVORS OF THE CARAVAN...
THEY WERE ATTACKED BY ANTANNI SOLDIERS AND.
I WONDER WHAT IT IS?
IT MIGHT HELP PRINCE KAL IF I FOUND THAT OUT
I CAN'T HEAR WHAT THEY'RE SAYING. I HAVE TO GET CLOSER.
SNAP
SO, LIKA!
YES.

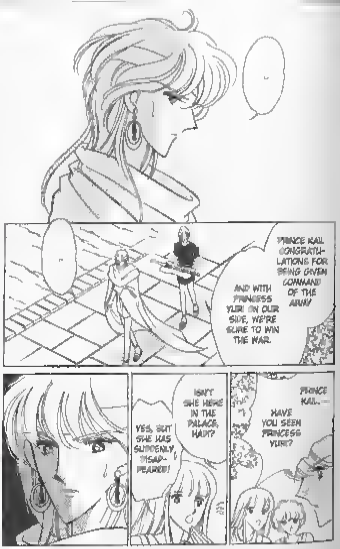
THERE'S NOWHERE TO HIDE!
SHE'S IN THE STORE-ROOM.
SHE CAN'T ESCAPE!


TA-TUMP

SHALL STAND READY TO MARCH AT ANY TIME.
THE SECOND PRINCE, TELIPINU, AND THE FIFTH PRINCE, PIYASHILI...
ONLY CROWN PRINCE ARNUWANDA SHALL REMAIN IN HATTUSA.
YOUR MAJESTY
THIS IS A LARGE FORCE TO ATTACK ONLY MALATIA.
CORRECT. MALATIA IS NOT OUR ONLY TARGET
OUR OBJECTIVE IS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE HITTITE KINGDOM!


OUR SCOUTS HAVE REPORTED!
I HAVE DECIDED TO SEND AN ARMY TO MALATIA!
THE HITTITES ARE USING THE FORTRESS CITY OF MALATIA AS THEIR FORWARD BASE

PRINCE ZANNANZA HATTUSILI, YOU SHALL LEAD A SECOND ARMY
YES, YOUR MAJESTY!
YES, YOUR MAJESTY
PRINCE KAL MURSILI...
YOU SHALL LEAD THAT FORCE.

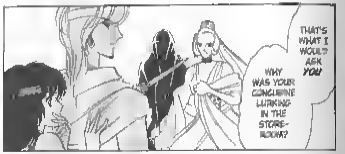

PRINCE KAIL, CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING GIVEN COMMAND OF THE ARMY
AND WITH PRINCESS YURI IN OUR SIDE, WE'RE SURE TO WIN THE WAR.
PRINCE KAIL...
HAVE YOU SEEN PRINCESS YURI?
WAIT! SHE WERE IN THE PALACE, HAN?
YES, BUT SHE WAS SUDDENLY, "DISAPPEARED!"

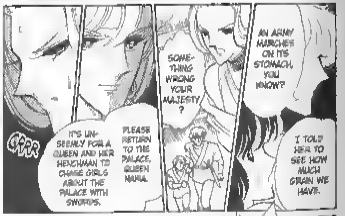
I TIRE OF FIGHTING THE MITANNI.
WITH OUR NEW WEAPONS OF IRON, WE CAN END THESE WASTEFUL CONFLICTS ONCE AND FOR ALL.
I DON'T CARE HOW LONG IT TAKES.
YOU WILL NOT RETURN TO HATTUSA UNTIL YOU HAVE SENT KING TUSHRATTA TO THE UNDER WORLD!
HE DOESN'T CARE HOW LONG IT TAKES!
I WILL JOIN YOU IN THE FIELD LATER ON.
MUR
MUR
THE EMPEROR IS GOING LEAD TROOPS!

OH...
IF ONLY I HAD THE DRAGON'S EYE...
PERHAPS WE'RE A BIT OVER-WROUGHT
I'D NEED WORRY ABOUT KAI. NO MORE.
I MUST GET MY HANDS ON IT!
RUSTLE-RUSTLE

I'M SURE I SAW SOMEONE ENTER...
THERE'S NO ONE HERE.
BUT PERHAPS I IMAGINED IT

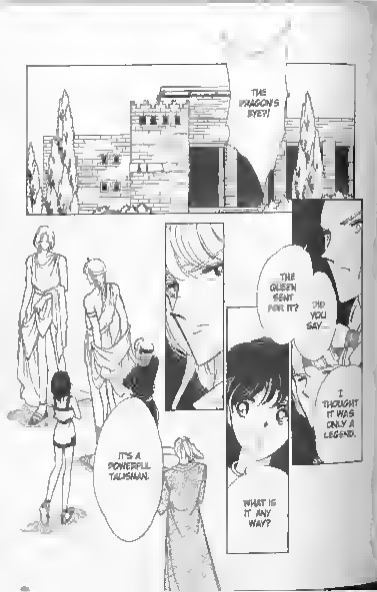
OOPS!
YOU!
YOU LITTLE IMP!
SHE HEARD OUR CONVERSATION!
WAP
OHH!
KRSHHH
THE DRAGON'S EYE?
AH-CHOO!
OH, THIS WHEAT DUST.
BERT
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS, BUT...
IF THE EVIL QUEEN WANTS IT IT BETTER TELL PRINCE KAR...


THAT'S WHAT I WOULD ASK YOU
WHY WAS YOUR CONCUBINE LURKING IN THE STOREROOM?


AN ARMY MARCHES ON ITS STOMACH, YOU KNOW?
I TOLD HER TO SEE HOW MUCH GRAIN WE HAVE.
SOMETHING WRONG, YOUR MAJESTY?
PLEASE RETURN TO THE PALACE, QUEEN NAHAL.
IT'S UNSEEMLY FOR A QUEEN AND HER HENCHMAN TO CHASE GIRLS ABOUT THE PALACE WITH SWORDS.
GRRR

IT'S ALSO UNHEALTHY FOR A CONCUBINE TO WANDER THESE HALLS UNATTENDED!!
YOU'D BE WISE TO KEEP HER LOCKED AWAY IN YOUR PALACE!
SWOOSH

PRINCE KAIL!
KAIL!
HAS MY PRINCESS DONE SOMETHING?
YOUR MAJESTY...

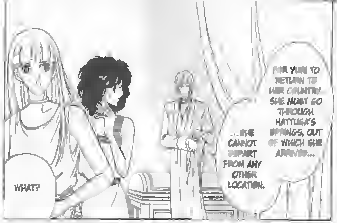

THE DRAGON'S EYE?!
THE QUEEN SENT FOR IT?
DID YOU SAY...
I THOUGHT IT WAS ONLY A LEGEND.
IT'S A POWERFUL TALISMAN.
WHAT IS IT ANY WAY?

OH, PRINCE.
PRINCE KAL.
SWOOP
NOW KAL WILL KNOW ABOUT THE DRAGON'S EYE
FAMA!

YOU MEAN WE'RE GOING AFTER THE DRAGON'S EYE?
IT SEEMS... ...THAT OUR EXPEDITIONARY FORCE HAS YET ANOTHER TASK.
GOOD IDEA!
WE CAN'T LET THE QUEEN OR THE MITANNI GET TO IT!!
...
WE'LL START PREPARING FOR WAR AT ONCE.
BUT WE CANNOT FAIL, WITH THE GODDESS OF WAR ON OUR SIDE!

IT IS SAID THAT THE DRAGON'S EYE CAN CONTROL PEOPLE'S WILLS.
THE POSSESSOR CAN CONTROL ANYONE.
IT WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC IF THE MITANNI HAD IT.
THE MITANNI ?
BUT THEY SAY THAT THE MITANNI HAVE STOLEN IT
STILL, I'M ASTONISHED THAT THE DRAGON'S EYE ACTUALLY EXISTS
WITH IT MANY COULD RULE THE ENTIRE EMPIRE.
CONTROL PEOPLE'S WILLS?

I SHALL NOT TAKE YURI TO WAR WITH ME.
SHE WILL REMAIN HERE IN HATTUSA.


WHAT?
...SHE CANNOT DEPART FROM ANY OTHER LOCATION.
FOR YURI TO RETURN TO HER COUNTRY, SHE MUST GO THROUGH HATTUSA'S RUINGS, OUT OF WHICH SHE ARRIVED...

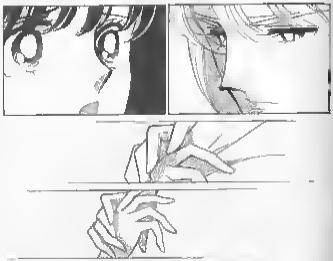
...WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THAT'S... THAT'S RIGHT. HE'S RIGHT. BUT...
IT'S DANGEROUS FOR HER TO REMAIN FAR FROM HATTUSA FOR LONG

REMAIN IN HATTUSA.
YURI SHALL.

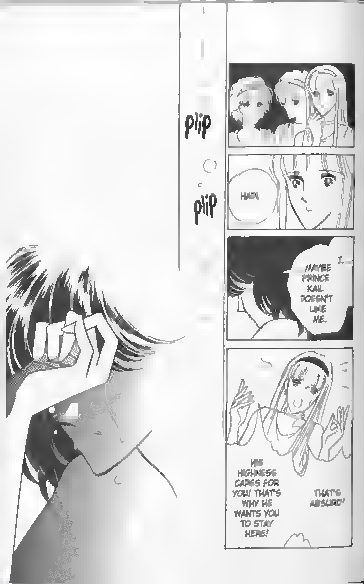
I CAN HANDLE MALAYA!
I'VE ALREADY SURVIVED ALVINA AND KIZILWATNA!
WHAT?!
PLEASE TAKE ME WITH YOU!

YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GO HOME EVEN IF I'M NOT HERE.
THERE ARE HIGH PRIESTS OTHER THAN THE QUEEN AND I IN HATTUSA.
...TEN MONTHS FROM NOW THE SEASON OF WATER WILL COME TO HATTUSA AND ISHTAR WILL RISE IN THE HEAVENS.
LESS THAN A YEAR.
IF WE EVER MEET AGAIN, WE MAY NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN!
LEAVE WITHOUT YOU, HANS?
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT BEING ATTACKED BY THE QUEEN!
I SHALL ASSIGN TRUSTED GUARDS TO PROTECT YOU.
THE QUEEN CAN'T GET AT YOU VERY EASILY.
DON'T WORRY...
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU! PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND!

IT WILL BE A LONG WAR. WE COULD BE GONE FOR YEARS!
THIS WAR WILL BE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE BATTLES, YUKI.
WE CAN'T RETURN TO HATTUSA UNTIL THE MITANNI HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.
YEARS?
YUKI,
YOU'LL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO YOUR COUNTRY IN A YEAR.


I DON'T BELONG HERE. MY FAMILY IS WAITING FOR ME BACK IN JAPAN.
I KNOW THAT
I KNOW...
I HAVE TO GO HOME.
RIGHT...
I DON'T WANT TO STAY IN HAITUSIA WITHOUT YOU!
BUT I CAN ONLY STAND TO LIVE HERE BECAUSE OF YOU!
YOU SHOULD STAY HERE AND RETURN TO THIS "JAPAN" OF YOURS.
IF YOU CAME WITH ME, YOU MIGHT MISS YOUR CHANCE TO GO HOME.

PRINCESS YUKI...
PRINCE KAIL!
PRINCE KAIL!
NO!!
TAKE ME WITH YOU!!


plip
plip
HAH.
I...
MAYBE PRINCE KAL DOESN'T LIKE ME.
HIS HIGHNESS CARES FOR YOU! THAT'S WHY HE WANTS YOU TO STAY HERE!
THAT'S ABSURD!

PRINCESS YURI.
NOT AT ALL.
OH, STELLA.
SORRY I WORRIED YOU EARLIER.

I'M ALL RIGHT.
I'LL DO WHAT THE PRINCE WANTS.
HE WAS RIGHT.
I SHOULD STAY HERE AND WAIT FOR ISHTAR TO RISE TEN MONTHS FROM NOW.

KIK-KAIRI...
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD WARN MY BROTHER.
WHAT?!
SWAP
PRINCE KAIL.
PRINCE KAIL!
WHAT IS IT KIKKURI?
PRINCE ZANAN-KAIRA FAIR.

SOB
SOB
SOB
OH, HAVI.
...I ONLY GAVE UP ON YURI BECAUSE SHE BELONGED TO MY BROTHER.
HMM...
PRINCE ZANAN-KAI?
BUT NOW THAT HE'S LEFT HER, I CAN TAKE HER WITH ME

HE SAID HE WAS GOING BACK TO KANEGH...
TO ORGANIZE HIS FORCES FOR THE WAR.
WELL...
WHERE DID HE TAKE HER?!
HE SAID HE TRULY INTENDS TO TAKE HER WITH HIM!
HE WAS GOING TO TAKE PRINCESS YURI WITH HIM!
WHAT?
KLOP
BRING ME A HORSE!
A HORSE
TARRUMP
OPEN THE GATE!
BA-DUMP BA-DUMP
WHERE'S YURI?!
YURI
PRINCE KAUL!
WE, WE TRIED TO STOP HIM, BUT
PRINCE ZARANIZA CAME JUST NOW AND CAUGHT PRINCESS YURI AWAY!

YOU'D BETTER NOT HAVE TOUCHED HER, KANNANZA!
I'M ONLY DOING IT SO THAT SHE CAN GO HOME.
NOT BECAUSE I DON'T WANT HER!
IF YOU HAVE, I WON'T FORGIVE YOU THIS TIME!

BAAA
WHOA!
SORRY!
WHAM
WHY DO YOU THINK I'M LEAVING YOU BEHIND, KANNANZA?
STUPID!

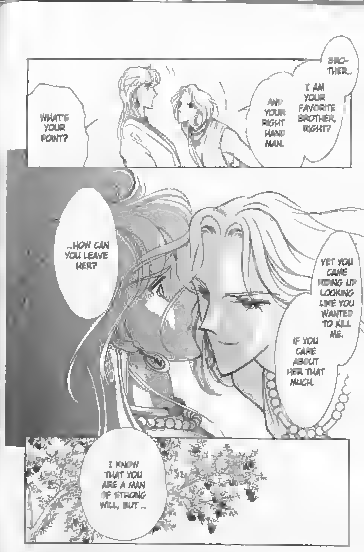
KLOP
THEIR HORSES!
AAAH!
XANNANZA, STOP!
YURI!!

I WON'T GIVE YURI UP TO ANYONE!
THE KING'S MAN

HEH
SHOULDN'T WE HAVE COME?
WE'RE HAVING A PICNIC.
PRINCE ZANNAZZA WAS TRYING TO CHEER ME UP
HADI AND HER SISTERS MADE LUNCH FOR US.
WHY AM I SURE? AREN'T YOU...
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?!
THERE.
I DEFINITELY FEEL A VIL...
...CONSPIR-ATORS!

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
BUT BOOKS ARE FALLING ON ME!
IT'S THE FASTEST WAY TO GET THE FRUIT OF THE TREE.
AAAH!
DON'T, PRINCE ZANNAZZA! PLEASE!
PRINCE KAIL? WHY ARE YOU HERE?
OH, HELLO, BROTHER. YOU CAME SOONER THAN I EXPECTED!

KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
WAP
YOU'RE WELCOME.
IT'S NOT HEALTHFUL TO DENY YOURSELF SO
WHAT DID YOU
ZANNANDA!
NOW I LEAVE THIS TO YOU MY BROTHER.
A YOUNGER BROTHER'S ALWAYS ENDS UP WITH THE SHORTEST END OF THE STICK.


BRO-THER..
I AM YOUR FAVORITE BROTHER, RIGHT?
AND YOUR RIGHT HAND MAN.
WHAT'S YOUR POINT?
..HOW CAN YOU LEAVE HER?
YET YOU CAME RIDING UP LOOKING LIKE YOU WANTED TO KILL ME.
IF YOU CARE ABOUT HER THAT MUCH.
I KNOW THAT YOU ARE A MAN OF STRONG WILL, BUT ...

TEN MONTHS.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I'LL STAY IN HATTUSA AS YOU WISH.

SO I SHALL OUTSHINE MY BROTHER IN THIS WAR AND THE BEAUTIFUL MITANNI WOMEN WILL FLOCK TO ME.
QUITE.
HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY YOUR HIGH NESS.
NOW I'M GOING BACK TO KANESH.
I'LL SEE YOU IN MALATIA
KLAK
NO.
FARE-WELL, ILBANI
DO YOU NEED ANY THING?

SO..
.. COME WITH ME.
WHAT?
I PROMISE WE'LL BE BACK IN TEN MONTHS SO THAT YOU CAN GO HOME.
PRINCE KAI-!

I'M GOING TO FINISH THE ARTAMIS IN TEN MONTHS.
WHAT?

FORGET WHAT I SAID! I WILL END THIS WAR IN TEN MONTHS AND RETURN TO HATTUSA IN TRIUMPH!
YOU SAID THIS WAR WOULD TAKE YEARS TO FINISH!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YUAN.
COME WITH ME

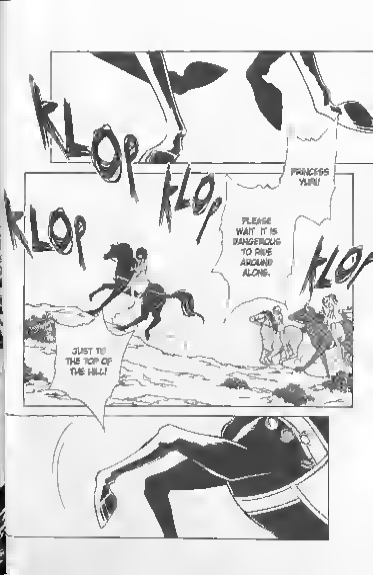
OH, PRINCE KAIL!
CAN I REALLY COME WITH YOU?
PRINCE KAIL...

PRINCE.
I CAN'T BREATHE.
I DIDN'T WANT...
TO PREVENT YOU FROM GOING HOME...
YOU MEAN IT?
BUT AS LONG AS YOU ARE HERE, I WANT YOU WITH ME.
I DON'T WANT TO LET YOU GO.

THANK YOU, PRINCE KAILI
I WILL DESTROY THE AMANE IN TEN MONTHS.
FOR YOU...

THE ONE CALLED KAL MURSILI.
ANY WAY
YES, MY PRINCE?
HIS BLOOD WILL BE A GOOD FORETASTE OF OUR CONQUEST OF THE PIGEON.
I DON'T CARE SO MUCH ABOUT THAT OLD MAN, BUT I DO HOPE TO MEET HIS SON IN BATTLE AGAIN..
THE HITTITE-ARZAWA FRONTIER
THE FORTRESS CITY OF MALAYA
DO YOU THINK THE HITTITE FORCES WILL COME,
... PRINCE OF DARK MESS?
THEY CANNOT IGNORE OUR PROVOCATIONS. THEY WILL CERTAINLY MOVE AGAINST US.
SUPPILULIUMA IS KNOWN FOR HIS STRENGTH. I DON'T THINK HE'LL RUN FROM A FIGHT

WHIN
NY
WOW!


KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
PRINCESS YUKI!
PLEASE WAIT. IT IS DANGEROUS TO RIDE AROUND ALONE.
JUST TO THE TOP OF THE HILL!

IT'S SPECTACULAR!
WHAT A MAGNIFICENT ARMY!
SHE'S LIABLE TO RIDE ALL THE WAY TO AKKATIA.
YES, YOUR HIGH NESS.
WE'LL CAMP HERE TONIGHT.
BRING YUH BACK.

YES.
THIS IS THE LARGEST EXPEDITIONARY FORCE SINCE KING MURSILI THE FIRST...
CONQUERED THE CAPITAL OF BABYLONIA. PRINCE KAIL WAS NAMED FOR HIM.
NOW PRINCE KAIL MURSILI LEADS THE ARMIES. HOW APPROPRIATE.

I AM DELIGHTED TO MEET YOU.
I AM ALISAPA. I COMMAND THE ARCHERS.
I AM KASH, COMMANDER OF THE CHARIOTS.
I AM HONORED
HOW DO YOU DO.
I AM MITTANAMWA, COMMANDER OF THE INFANTRY
YOU SNEAKY BASTARD.
PRINCESS YURI, LOOK.
PLEASE... ALLOW ME TO RECEIVE ISHTAR'S BLESSING.

I AM.
ARE YOU COMING TOO, I-BANY?

I WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO MY OFFICERS
YURI, COME.
CAMPAIGNS LIKE THIS AREN'T WON BY SOLDIERS ALONE. YOU NEED COOKS AND CRAFTSMEN, TOO.
AND I SHALL CHRONICLE IT ALL FOR POSTERITY

HEH HEH
YOU MUST BE PRINCESS YUKI. I AM SHARMA.
THE BLESSINGS OF THE THOUSAND HITTITE GODS BE UPON YOU LADIES.
SO..
THE ARMY CERTAINLY IS MADE UP OF MANY KINDS OF PEOPLE.

WOW... WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MAN!
WHO IS HE?
HE IS A PRIEST. HIS MAJESTY SENT HIM.
HE'S VERY HANDSOME, ISN'T HE?
BLONDE HAIR AND BLUE EYES. HE MUST BE FROM THE NORTH.

THEIR CHARIOTS WON'T STOP US.
BUT ONCE WE GET IRON WEAPONS...
TO CAST IRON, WE MUST WAIT FOR THE SEASON OF WIND
WHAT? WE'RE NOT ARMED WITH IRON YET?
MATTIS, SECRET WEAPON #1
THE SEASON OF FIRE WILL BE OVER SOON AND THE SEASON OF WIND WILL ARRIVE.
STRONG WINDS ARE NEEDED TO MAKE FIRES HOT ENOUGH TO MELT IRON
THEN WE MUST LAY SIEGE TO THE CITY
THAT MEANS A PROLONGED CONFLICT
YES IT COULD TAKE THREE MONTHS FOR OUR IRON WEAPONS TO ARRIVE.
!!

IN THREE DAYS.
WILL YOU ATTACK THEM STRAIGHT AWAY?
WE'LL SURROUND HALATIA. WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?
WE'D BE EASY PREY TO THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS.
THAT'S A GREAT ADVANTAGE ON THE PLAIN SURROUNDING THE CITY
I THINK NOT
THE HITTANA ARE EXCELLENT CHARIOTEERS.

I SHALL TAKE MALATIA.
... IN FIVE DAYS
PRINCE KAL?!
FIVE DAYS?
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?

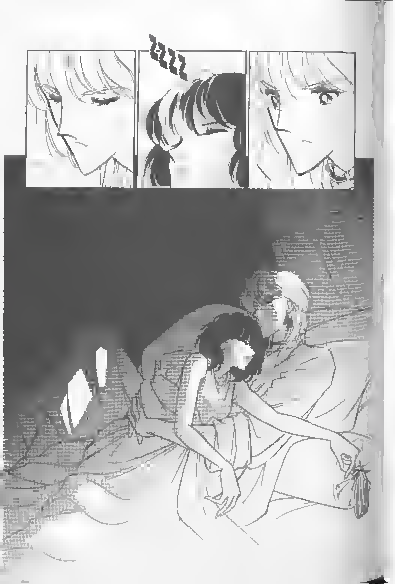
WE'LL NEVER FINISH THIS WAR IN TEN MONTHS!
THREE MONTHS TO CAPTURE MALATIA?
PRINCE KAL SAID HE WOULD FINISH THE ANTANAE IN TEN MONTHS SO THAT I COULD GO HOME! BUT IF IT TAKES THREE MONTHS JUST TO CAPTURE ONE CITY

AND WE WON'T NEED IRON, EITHER.
WE'RE NOT GOING TO LAY SIEGE TO MALATIA.

YOUR HIGHNESS?

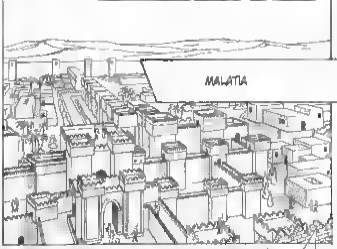
I DON'T INTEND TO.
PERHAPS A BIT LESS.
IN TEN MONTH'S TIME...
...WE SHALL RETURN TO HATTUSA. I PROMISE.

PRINCE KAL...
I KNOW YOU SAID WE'D BE BACK IN HATTUSA IN TEN MONTHS, BUT WON'T KILL YOURSELF
JUST CAPTURING MALATYA IS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT
AND THE QUEEN WON'T GIVE UP ON THE PHARAOH'S EVE WITHOUT A FIGHT
SO DON'T OVER-WORK YOURSELF
I'M JUST...
HAPPY AS LONG AS I CAN BE WITH YOU


ZZZZ

SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO BE WITH ME...
I HOPE SHE DOESN'T THINK THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO BEING A CONCUBINE
IT'S NOT SAFE TO SLEEP SO SOUNDLY OVER...
I MIGHT TAKE AD-VANTAGE OF YOU

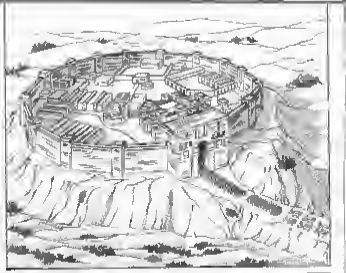
WHAT?
IT MUST BE THE SAME ARMY
THIS SAME BANNER FLEW OVER THOSE WE FOUGHT IN MIRUWATNA.
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS!
VERY WELL. I'LL GO THEN.
THE SAME ARMY?
THE ARMY OF KIL-MURATI?
I WISH YOU GOOD FORTUNE IN WAR.
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS
I'M ENTRUSTING THE DEFENSE OF MALATIA TO YOU.
RAMA, I'LL LEAVE A THIRD OF THE SOLDIERS HERE.
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.


MALATIA

A HITTITE ARMY IS ONLY A DAY FROM HERE TO THE NORTH!
PRINCE OF DARKNESS!

THEY'VE FINALLY COME.
ARE YOU SURE IT'S THE HITTITES?

I THINK NOT. THEY'RE HEADING SOUTH-WEST.
PRINCE KAIL!
OUR SCOUT REPORTS THAT THE MITANNI ARE ON THE MARCH.
WHAT? THEY KNOW WHERE WE ARE?
HA! I TOLD ZANHANTA TO LURE THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS OUT OF MALATIA.
...AND LEAD THEM AROUND FOR FIVE DAYS.
I'VE THOUGHT THIS OUT MOST CAREFULLY.
ZANHANTA'S AWAY FROM KANNISH AND THE KING WHO DEFEATED THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS BEFORE.
I'M SLIPPING IN THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS FULL ARMOR.
YOU DIDN'T PRINCE ZANHANTA AS A TARGET?
HE WILL WANT REVENGE.
YES.
WHY? IT IS OUR TURN TO MAKE SOME MOVES.



IT'S TOO TOO PERILOUS!
PRINCE KAL, WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?
IT SOUNDS TREMENDOUS.
HE'S RIGHT PRINCE KAL, PLEASE DON'T GO.
I'D TAKE MALATIA IN FIVE MINS...
...I MUST USE INSTANT RAIT
YOUR HIGH NESS!
ENOUGH! OBEY MY ORDERS!
YANK
PRINCE KAL...
PLEASE TAKE ME WITH YOU!
IF YOU DON'T TAKE ME ALONG, I WON'T LET YUKI GO!
179

FIRST TELL THE HAMON OF MALATIA THAT PRINCE KAL ANDROLL OF NATTUNA WISHES TO CALL ON HIM.
TELL HIM I'LL BE ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY MY MEN.
WAIT?
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS, YOUR HIGHNESS!
I WON'T THINK THEY'RE AWARE THAT WE KNOW MALATIA IS NOW A HAVANA BASE.
SINCE THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS IS NOT IN MALATIA THE HAMON MAY RESERVE HIS TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION.
MALATIA IS AN INDEPENDENT CITY-STATE THAT BELONGS TO NO EMPIRE, BUT IF THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS HAS HIS TROOPS THERE, MALATIA IS IN FACT A HAVANA STRONGHOLD!
178

HAHAL..
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'VE GIVEN PERMISSION FOR A HITTITE PRINCE TO ENTER MALATYA?

I COULD NOT TURN HIM AWAY. WE HAVEN'T ENOUGH MEN TO RESIST HIM.
HIS REQUEST WAS VERY POLITE. HE ASKED ME TO LET JUST HIM AND A FEW AIDES VISIT.
HE SAID HE'S ON HIS WAY TO BATTLE AT THE HEAD OF A GREAT ARMY.
WHAT ELSE COULD I DO, GENERAL DANAY

I WOULDN'T WANT HIM COMING BACK WHILE WE'RE STILL IN THE CITY

HA
WHAT?
OF COURSE, I AM TAKING YOU WITH ME...
YOU'RE THE HEROINE OF THIS PLAY!

SULIF
?
?
?
JUST DO YOUR BEST

AND KIKILIA...
LET ME SCOUT FOR THE FRINGE OF DARKNESS ENTER MALATYA.

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL..
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY.
GREETINGS, HONORABLE HAHM.
THE THIRD PRINCE OF THE HITTITE EMPIRE, KAIL MURSILI.
PLEASE ...
YOUR HIGHNESS...
HAVE HIM COME, LIBANI.
I NEED NO FORMALITY HERE.
I WOULD LIKE TO GREET HIS HIGHNESS.
YOU MUST BE PRINCE KAIL'S AIDE.
YOUR HIGHNESS...
IT IS MY GREAT HONOR TO MEET YOU.

WHAT MANNER OF MAN IS KAIL MURSILI?
PRINCE MATTIWAZA SAYS HE'S A BRILLIANT GENERAL..
I HEARD A RUMOR THAT KAIL, THOUGH HE IS NOT THE CROWN PRINCE, HAS A PALACE IN THE CAPITAL AND IS A BIT OF A PLAYBOY
NORMALLY HITTITE PRINCES, OTHER THAN THE CROWN PRINCE, SERVE AS NAVOYS FOR THEIR IMPORTANT OUTLYING CITIES
I DUNNO KNOW
PERHAPS KING SUPPILULIUMA GAVE HIM AN IMPORTANT POSITION THAT KEEPS HIM IN THE CAPITAL
I ALSO HEARD THAT HE ENJOYS SPORTING WITH MANY PRINCESSES
HMMM.
WE'LL LEARN THE TRUTH WHEN WE MEET HIM.

HEH
I'LL BE MAKING MYSELF AT HOME HERE FOR A WHILE.
...MMHM.
WHAT COULD PRINCE KAI BE PLANNING...
TO HAVE ME PRESENT LIKE THIS?

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RED RIVER

Battle between the ancient empires of Hattusa and Mittani rages on, but Yuri is pulled away by Zannanza, Prince Kali's half-brother and his competitor for Yuri's affections. Kali, seeing evidence of another man's passion for Yuri, recalls with jealousy and refuses to let her back into the fray.

However, twenty-first century teen Yuri is thought to be good luck on the battlefield, and Kali relents, allowing Yuri to fight alongside him for the kingdom of Hattusa. Knowing that the time will soon come when he must send Yuri back to her own time, Kali struggles with his inner desire to keep her with him forever...

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